

## **FAQs about the JWOD Name Change to AbilityOne**

### ***Why is the JWOD Program name changing?***

The JWOD Program does not have the level of awareness, understanding and preference among key audiences that can maximize future success. Using the JWOD acronym as an umbrella name for the program did not effectively link all of the participating organizations and our employment mission. A strong, descriptive and more memorable name will help us better communicate the purpose and value of the program, build preference and enable more employment opportunities. The Committee wanted such a name that would also convey our employment mission and honor our workforce.

### ***Why was AbilityOne chosen as the new program name?***

AbilityOne best fit several criteria for a more informative and compelling identity, because both the program and the name are about the power of individuals to fulfill their potential. AbilityOne reflects our workforce (Ability) and Federal agencies' premier source (One) for a wide range of products and services. It also reflects the intersection of public and private sector agencies under one program with a common employment goal. Finally, the program is the #1 employer of people who are blind or severely disabled in the U.S., tapping into the abilities of nearly 47,000 individuals nationwide.

### ***What is the mission and vision of the Program that will become known as the AbilityOne?***

The program creates employment for people who are blind or severely disabled in the manufacture and delivery of products and services to the Federal Government. Its vision is to enable people with severe disabilities to achieve their maximum employment potential. Many people with severe disabilities will be able to use the training and skills obtained through the program to find other employment opportunities.

### ***What is the transition plan from the JWOD to the AbilityOne name?***

Javits-Wagner-O'Day or the JWOD acronym will continue to be used for the next 18 months alongside AbilityOne. This transition period will enable customers and supporters to know that JWOD is becoming AbilityOne. New graphics and standards will be shared with program participants and business partners as they are developed.

### ***What are the implications for Federal Customers?***

It is "business as usual" for Federal agencies during the transition to AbilityOne. Customers will continue to enjoy the same high quality goods and services they have been receiving for over 60 years from over 600 nonprofit agencies nationwide. The Committee is still the Federal agency that administers the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act.

### ***Have other Federal agencies or programs changed their names?***

Many Federal agencies enhance or change their names to improve communication and to facilitate achieving their goals. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and the Government Accountability Office are two examples at the agency name level. The General Services Administration adopted "Global Supply" to describe its worldwide distribution program. USAID, formerly the U.S. Agency for International Development, also established branding guidelines to ensure that all of its programs are properly identified overseas as American aid.